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CONFIDENTIAL 3.5(c) MICROFILMED

Omar Domingo Rubens GRAFFIGNA (Phonetic: GRAfeenah) ARGENTINA

Commander in Chief, Air Force; Member, Ruling Junta (since January 1979)

Addressed as: General Graffigna

OFFICE OF CENTRAL REFERENCE

MICRO ONLY

Lt. Gen. Omar Graffigna is an ambitious, politically moderate officer who is strongly anti-Communist and pro-West. A firm defender of military rule in Argentina, he has vowed that subversion from the left will never again be permitted in his country. Graffigna believes that military governments in South America's southern cone should stand united on international issues that affect them. He has visited Chile and maintains fairly good relations with the Chilean Air Force; he also has urged a quick settlement of the Beagle Channel dispute between the two countries.

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Graffigna is innovative, decisive and an excellent organizer. Before making decisions he usually considers the views of his subordinates, who are fiercely loyal to him. He takes his military profession seriously and is highly respected by his fellow officers. 3.5(c)

Among the important positions Graffigna has held in the military have been: head of Transport Group II (1967-71); air attache in Italy (1971-72); assistant director of the Military Aviation School in Córdoba (1972-73); commander, II Air Brigade (1973-76); and Air Force chief of staff (February 1976-January 1979). While chief of staff he played an important role in formulating both military and political policies. 3.5(c)

The general is an excellent conversationalist, often willing to talk and well informed on many subjects. He speaks some English and good Italian. Married to the former Ilda Beatriz Vargas, he is the father of two sons and a daughter. 6.2(d)

Graffigna is 63 years old.

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